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CHARTER

of the

Colony of Connecticut

1662

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Connecticut (Colony) Charter

CHARTER

of the

Colony of Connecticut

1662

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CHARTER OF 1662.

[On the 14th of March, 1661, the General Court of Connecticut voted to petition the king for the continuance and confirmation of such privileges and liberties as were necessary for the comfortable and peaceable settlement of the Colony.

Governor Winthrop was requested to act as the agent for the Colony. He sailed from New York in July, 1661. The letter of credit for £500 sterling, which he took with him, may be seen in the State Library. The amount was paid in wheat and pease. He succeeded in procuring a very liberal charter, which bears date April 23d, 1662.

The charter was made in duplicate and sent in different ships. The duplicate probably arrived first, and was received in Connecticut in September, 1662. There are some trifling verbal differences between them, not, however, affecting the sense.

In 1687 it became evident that the Colony was likely to be deprived of the charter, and measures were taken accordingly. There is a very curious entry on the Colonial Records in June 1687, of the production of the (original) charter in court, and of its being left on the table with the key in the box at the adjournment of the Court, with no one responsible for its safety, the committee which had been appointed to keep it being discharged by their surrendry of it to the Court. Perhaps it was at this time that the charter was quietly taken by Nathaniel Stanly and John Talcott, and concealed in the famous oak.

On the 31st of October, 1687, Sir Edmund Andros came to Hartford to receive the surrender of the charter. The Assembly met and sat late at night. The duplicate charter was brought forth and placed on the table. Suddenly the lights were extinguished, and Captain Joseph Wadsworth carried off and concealed the duplicate, which he retained until 1715, when the Assembly made him a grant for his good service in the matter. The one more highly ornamented than the other, now hangs in the Secretary's office. What remains

of the second copy may be seen in the rooms of the Connecticut Historical Society at Hartford. How it was saved from being cut up to make the foundation of a bonnet is told in a note in Vol. 4 of the Colonial Records.

The charter continued to be the basis of our government until it was superseded by the constitution of 1818.—*C. J. Hoadly.*]

Charles the Second, By the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, defender of the Faith, &c.; **To** all to whome theis preſents ſhall come, Greetinge: **Whereas,** by the ſeverall Navigacons, diſcoveryes and ſucceſſfull Plantacons of diverſe of our loveing Subjects of this our Realme of England, Severall Lands, Iſlands, Places, Colonies and Plantacons have byn obtayned and setled in that parte of the Continent of America called New England, and thereby the Trade and Comerce there hath byn of late yeares much increased, **And whereas,** wee have byn informed by the humble Peticon of our Trusty and welbeloved John Winthrop, John Maſon, Samuell Willis, Henry Clerke, Mathew Allen, John Tappen, Nathan Gold, Richard Treate, Richard Lord, Henry Woolicott, John Talcott, Daniell Clerke, John Ogden, Thomas Wells, Obedias Brewen, John Clerke, Anthony Haukins, John Deming and Mathew Camfeild, being Perſons Principally interested in our Colony or Plantacon of Conecticutt in New England, that the ſame Colony or the greateſt parte thereof was purchaſed and obteyned for greate and valuable Conſideracons, And ſome other part thereof gained by Conqueſt and with much difficulty, and att

the onely endeavours, expence and Charge of them and their Aſſociates, and thoſe vnder whome they Clayme, Subdued and improved, and thereby become a conſiderable enlargement and addiċon of our Dominions and intereſt there,—Now Know yea, that in conſideraċon thereof, and in regard the ſaid Colony is remote from other the English Plantaċons in the Places aforeſaid, And to the end the Affaires and Buſines which ſhall from tyme to tyme happen or ariſe concerning the ſame may bee duely Ordered and mannaged, Wee have thought fitt, and att the humble Petiċon of the Perſons aforesaid, and are graciously pleaſed to Create and Make them a Body Pollitique and Corporate, with the powers and Priviledges herein after menċoned; And accordingly Our will and pleaſure is, and of our eſpeciall grace, certeine knowledge and meere moċon, wee have Ordeyned, Constituted and Declared, And by theis preſents, for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, Doe Ordeine, Conſtitute and Declare That they, the said John Winthrop, John Maſon, Samuell Willis, Henry Clerke, Mathew Allen, John Tappen, Nathan Gold, Richard Treate, Richard Lord, Henry Woollcot, John Talcot, Daniell Clerke, John Ogden, Thomas Wells, Obadiah Brewen, John Clerke, Anthony Hawkins, John Deming and Mathew Camfeild, and all ſuch others as now are or hereafter ſhall bee Admitted and made free of the Company and Society of our Collony of Connecticut in America, ſhall from tyme to tyme and for ever hereafter, bee one Body Corporate and

Pollitique in fact and name, by the Name of Governour and Company of the English Collony of Conecticut in New England in America; And that by the ſame name they and their Succeſſors ſhall and may have perpetuall Succeſſion, and ſhall and may bee Perſons able and Capable in the law to Plead and bee Impleaded, to Anſwere and to bee Anſwered vnto, to Defend and bee Defended in all and ſinguler Suits, Cauſes, quarrelles, Matters, Accons and things of what kind or nature ſoever, And alſoe to have, take, poſſeſſe, acquire and purchaſe lands, Tenements or hereditaments, or any goods or Chattells, and the ſame to Leaſe, Graunt, Demiſe, Alien, bargaine, Sell and diſpoſe of, as other our leige People of this our Realme of England, or any other Corporacon or Body Pollitique within the ſame may lawfully doe. **And further,** that the ſaid Governour and Company, and their Succeſſors ſhall and may for ever hereafter have a Comon Seale to ſerve and vſe for all Cauſes, matters, things and affaires, whatſoever of them and their Succeſſors, and the ſame Seale to alter, change, breake and make new from tyme to tyme att their wills and pleaſures, as they ſhall thinke fitt. **And** further, wee will and Ordeine, and by theis preſents for vs, our heires and Succeſſors **Doe** Declare and appoint, that for the better ordering and manageing of the affaires and buſineſſe of the said Company and their Succeſſors, there ſhall bee one Governour, one Deputy Governour and Twelve Aſſiſtants, to bee from tyme to tyme Conſtituted, Elected

and Choſen out of the Freemen of the ſaid Company for the tyme being, in ſuch manner and forme as hereafter in theſe preſents is expreſſed; which ſaid Officers ſhall apply themſelves to take care for the beſt diſpoſeing and Ordering of the Generall buſines and affaires of and concerning the lands and hereditaments herein after menc̃oned to bee graunted, and the Plantac̃on thereof and the Government of the People thereof. And for the better execuc̃on of our Royall Pleaſure herein, wee doe for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, Aſſigne, name, Conſtitute and appoint the aforeſaid John Winthrop to bee the firſt and preſent Governour of the ſaid Company; And the ſaid John Maſon to bee the Deputy Governour; And the ſaid Samuell Willis, Mathew Allen, Nathan Gold, Henry Clerke, Richard Treat, John Ogden, Thomas Tappen, John Talcott, Thomas Wells, Henry Woolcot, Richard Lord and Daniell Clerke to bee the Twelve preſent Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company; to contynue in the ſaid ſeverall Offices reſpectively, vntill the ſecond Thurſday which ſhall bee in the moneth of October now next comeing. And further, wee will, and by theis preſents for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, Doe Ordaine and Graunt that the Governour of the ſaid Company for the tyme being, or, in his abſence by occaſion of ſicknes, or otherwiſe by his leave or permiſſion, the Deputy Governour for the tyme being, ſhall and may from tyme to tyme vpon all occaſions give Order for the aſſembling of the ſaid Company and calling them together to Conſult

and adviſe of the buſineſſe and Affaires of the ſaid Company, And that for ever hereafter, Twice in every yeare, That is to ſay on every Second Thurſday in October and on every Second Thurſday in May, or oftener, in Case it ſhall bee requiſite, The Aſſiſtants and freemen of the ſaid Company, or ſuch of them, not exceeding twoe Perſons from each Place, Towne or Citty, whoe shall bee from tyme to tyme therevnto Elected or Deputed by the maior parte of the freemen of the reſpective Townes, Cittyes and Places for which they ſhall bee ſoe elected or Deputed, ſhall have a generall meeting or Aſſembly, then and their to Conſult and adviſe in and about the Affaires and buſineſſe of the ſaid Company; And that the Governour, or in his abſence the Deputy Governour of the ſaid Company for the tyme being, and ſuch of the Aſſiſtants and freemen of the ſaid Company as ſhall be ſoe Elected or Deputed and bee preſent att ſuch meeting or Aſſembly, or the greateſt number of them, whereof the Governour or Deputy Governour and Six of the Aſſiſtants at leaſt, to bee Seaven, ſhall bee called the Generall Aſſembly, and ſhall have full power and authority to alter and change their dayes and tymes of meeting or Generall Aſſemblies for Electing the Governour, Deputy Governour and Aſſiſtants or other Officers or any other Courts, Aſſemblies or meetings, and to Chooſe, Nominate and appoint ſuch and ſoe many other Perſons as they ſhall thinke fitt and ſhall bee willing to accept the ſame, to be free of the ſaid Company and Body Politique, and

them into the ſame to Admitt and to Elect, and Conſtitute such Officers as they ſhall thinke fitt and requiſite for the Ordering, mannageing and disposeing of the Affaires of the ſaid Governour and Company and their Succeſſors. And wee doe hereby for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, Eſtabliſh and Ordeine, that once in the yeare for ever hereafter, namely, the ſaid Second Thurſday in May, the Governour, Deputy Governour, and Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company and other Officers of the ſaid Company, or ſuch of them as the ſaid Generall Aſſembly ſhall thinke fitt, ſhall bee in the ſaid Generall Court and Aſſembly to bee held from that day or tyme newly Choſen for the yeare enſuing, by ſuch greater part of the ſaid Company for the tyme being then and there preſent. And if the Governour, Deputy Governour and Aſſiſtants by theſe preſents appointed, or ſuch as hereafter bee newly Choſen into their Roomes, or any of them, or any other the Officers to bee appointed for the ſaid Company ſhall dye or bee removed from his or their ſeverall Offices or Places before the ſaid Generall day of Elecc̃on, whome wee doe hereby Declare for any miſdemeanour or default to bee removeable by the Governour, Aſſiſtants and Company, or ſuch greater part of them in any of the ſaid publique Courts to bee Aſſembled as is aforeſaid, That then and in every ſuch Caſe itt ſhall and may bee lawfull to and for the Governour, Deputy Governour and Aſſiſtants and Company aforeſaid, or ſuch greater parte of them soe to bee Aſſembled as is aforeſaid in any of their Aſſemblies

to Proceede to a New Elecc̃on of one or more of their Company in the Roome or place, Roomes or Places of ſuch Governour, Deputy Governour, Aſſiſtant or other Officer or Officers soe dyeing or removed, according to their diſcretions; and immediately vpon and after ſuch Elecc̃on or Elecc̃ons made of ſuch Governour, Deputy Governour, Aſſiſtant or Aſſiſtants, or any other Officer of the ſaid Company in manner and forme aforeſaid, The Authority, Office and Power before given to the former Governour, Deputy Governour or other Officer and Officers soe removed, in whoſe ſtead and Place new ſhall be choſen, ſhall as to him and them and every of them reſpectively ceaſe and determine. **Provided**, alſoe, and our will and pleaſure is, That as well ſuch as are by theis preſents appointed to bee the preſent Governour, Deputy Governour and Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company as thoſe that [shall] ſucceed them, and all other Officers to bee appointed and Choſen as aforeſaid, ſhall, before they vndertake the Execuc̃on of their ſaid Offices and Places reſpectively, take their ſeverall and reſpective Corporall Oathes for the due and faithfull performance of their dutyes in their ſeverall Offices and Places, before ſuch Perſon or Perſons as are by theſe Preſents hereafter appoynted to take and receive the ſame; That is to ſay, the ſaid John Winthrop, whoe is herein before nominated and appointed the preſent Governour of the ſaid Company, ſhall take the ſaid Oath before one or more of the Maſters of our Court of Chancery for the tyme being,

vnto which Master of Chancery wee doe, by theis preſents, give full power and authority to Adminiſter the ſaid Oath to the ſaid John Winthrop accordingly. And the ſaid John Maſon, whoe is herein before nominated and duely appointed the preſent Deputy Governour of the ſaid Company, ſhall take the ſaid Oath before the ſaid John Winthrop, or any twoe of the Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company, vnto whome wee doe by theſe preſents, give full power and authority to Adminiſter the ſaid Oath to the ſaid John Maſon accordingly. And the ſaid Samuell Willis, Henry Clerke, Mathew Allen, John Tappen, Nathan Gold, Richard Treate, Richard Lord, Henry Woolcott, John Talcott, Daniell Clerke, John Ogden and Thomas Welles, whoe are herein before Nominated and appointed the preſent Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company, ſhall take the Oath before the ſaid John Winthrop and John Maſon, or one of them, to whome wee doe hereby give full power and authority to Adminiſter the ſame accordingly. And our further will and pleaſure is, that all and every Governour or Deputy Governour to bee Elected and Choſen by vertue of theis preſents, shall take the ſaid Oath before two or more of the Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company for the tyme being, vnto whom wee doe, by theis preſents, give full power and authority to give and Adminiſter the said Oath accordingly. And the ſaid Aſſiſtants and every of them, and all and every other Officer or Officers to bee hereafter Choſen from tyme to tyme, to take the ſaid Oath before the Governour or

Deputy Governour for the tyme being, vnto which ſaid Governour or Deputy Governour wee doe, by theis preſents, give full power and authority to Adminiſter the ſame accordingly. And further, of our more ample grace, certeine knowledge and meere moc̃on wee have given and Graunted, and by theis preſents, for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, Doe give and Graunt vnto the ſaid Governour and Company of the English Colony of Conecticut in New England in America, and to every Inhabitant there, and to every Perſon and Perſons Trading thither, And to every ſuch Perſon and Perſons as are or ſhall bee free of the ſaid Collony, full power and authority from tyme to tyme and att all tymes hereafter, to take, Ship, Tranſport and Carry away, for and towards the Plantac̃on and defence of the ſaid Collony ſuch of our loveing Subjects and Strangers as ſhall or will willingly accompany them in and to their ſaid Collony and Plantac̃on; (Except such Perſon and Perſons as are or ſhall bee therein reſtrayned by vs, our heires and Succeſſors;) And alſoe to Ship and Tranſport all and all manner of goods, Chattells, Merchandizes and other things whatſoever that are or ſhall bee vsefull or neceſſary for the Inhabitants of the ſaid Collony and may lawfully bee Tranſported thither; Nevertheleſſe, not to bee diſcharged of payment to vs, our heires and Succeſſors, of the Dutyes, Cuſtomes and Subſidies which are or ought to bee paid or payable for the same. And further, Our will and pleaſure is, and wee doe for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, Ordeyne, De-

clare and Graunt vnto the ſaid Governor and Company and their Succeſſors, That all and every the Subiects of vs, our heires or Succeſſors which ſhall goe to Inhabite within the said Colony, and every of their Children which ſhall happen to bee borne there or on the Sea in goeing thither or returneing from thence, ſhall have and enioye all liberties and Immunities of free and naturall Subiects within any the Dominions of vs, our heires or Succeſſors, to all intents, Conſtrucc̃ons and purpoſes whatſoever, as if they and every of them were borne within the Realme of England. **And wee doe** authoriſe and impower the Governour, or in his abſence the Deputy Governor for the tyme being, to appointe two or more of the ſaid aſſiſtants att any of their Courts or Aſſemblyes to bee held as aforeſaid, to have power and authority to Adminiſter the Oath of Supremacy and obedience to all and every Perſon and Perſons which ſhall att any tyme or tymes hereafter goe or paſſe into the ſaid Colony of Conecticut, vnto which ſaid Aſſiſtants ſoe to bee appointed as aforeſaid, **wee doe**, by theſe preſents, give full power and authority to Adminiſter the ſaid Oath accordingly. **And wee doe further**, of our especiall grace, certeine knowledge and meere moc̃on, give and Graunt vnto the ſaid Governor and Company of the English Colony of Conecticutt in New England in America, and their Succeſſors, that itt ſhall and may bee lawfull to and for the Governor or Deputy Governor and ſuch of the Aſſiſtants of the ſaid Company for the tyme being as ſhall bee

Aſſembled in any of the General Courts aforeſaid, or in any Courts to bee eſpecially Sumoned or Aſſembled for that purpoſe, or the greater parte of them, whereof the Governor or Deputy Governor and Six of the Aſſiſtants, (to be all wayes Seaven,) to Erect and make ſuch Judicatories for the heareing and Determining of all Accons, Causes, matters and thinges happening within the ſaid Colony or Plantacon and which ſhall bee in diſpute and depending there, as they ſhall thinke fitt and convenient; And alſoe from tyme to tyme to Make, Ordaine and Eſtabliſh All manner of wholſome and reaſonable Lawes, Statutes, Ordinances, Direccons and Inſtrucons, not contrary to the lawes of this Realme of England, aſwell for ſetling the formes and Ceremonies of Government and Mageſtracy fitt and neceſſary for the ſaid Plantacon and the Inhabitants there as for nameing and Stileing all ſorts of Officers, both ſuperior and inferior, which they ſhall find needfull for the Governement and Plantacon of the ſaid Colony, and the diſtinguiſhing and setting forth of the severall Dutyes, Powers and Lymitts of every ſuch Office and Place, and the formes of ſuch Oaths, not being contrary to the Lawes and Statutes of this our Realme of England, to bee Adminiſtred for the Execucon of the ſaid ſeverall Offices and Places; As alſoe for the dispoſeing and Ordering of the Elecon of ſuch of the ſaid Officers as are to bee Annually Chosen, and of ſuch others as ſhall ſucceed in caſe of death or removall, and Adminiſtring the ſaid Oath to the new Elected Officers, and

Graunting neceſſary Comiſſions, and for impoſiĉon of lawfull Fines, Mulcts, Impriſonment or other Puniſhment vpon Offenders and Delinquents, according to the Courſe of other Corporaĉons within this our Kingdome of England, and the ſame Lawes, fines, Mulcts and Execuĉons to alter, change, revoke, adnull, releaſe or Pardon, vnder their Comon Seale, As by the ſaid Generall Aſſembly or the maior part of them ſhall bee thought fitt; And for the directing, ruleing and diſpoſeing of all other matters and things whereby our ſaid people, Inhabitants there, may bee soe religiouſly, peaceably and civilly Governed as their good life and orderly Converſaĉon may wynn and invite the Natives of the Country to the knowledge and obedience of the onely true God and Saviour of mankind and the Chriſtian faith, which in our Royall intenĉons and the Adventurers free profeſſion is the onely and principall end of this Plantaĉon; **Willing**, Commanding and requireing, and by theſe preſents, for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, Ordaineing and appointeing That all ſuch Lawes, Statutes and Ordinances, Inſtrucĉons, Impoſiĉons, and Direcĉons as ſhall bee ſoe made by the Governor, Deputy Governor, and Aſſiſtants, as aforeſaid, and publiſhed in writeing vnder their Comon Seale, ſhall carefully and duely bee obſerved, kept, perſormed and putt in execuĉon, according to the true intent and meaning of the ſame. **And** theſe our letters Patent, or the Duplicate or Exemplificaĉon thereof, ſhall bee to all and every ſuch Officers, Superiors and inferiors, from tyme to tyme for

the Putting of the same Orders, Lawes, Statutes, Ordinances, Inſtrucc̃ons and Direcc̃ons in due Execuc̃on, againſt vs, our heires and Succeſſors, a ſufficient warrant and diſcharge. **And wee doe further,** for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, give and Graunt vnto the ſaid Governor and Company and their Succeſſors, by theſe preſents, That itt ſhall and may bee lawfull to and for the Cheife Commanders, Governors and Officers of the ſaid Company for the tyme being whoe ſhall bee reſident in the parts of New England hereafter menc̃oned, and others inhabiting there by their leave, admittance, appointment or direcc̃on, from tyme to tyme and att all tymes hereafter, for their ſpeciall defence and ſafety, to Aſſemble, Martiall, Array, and putt in Warlike poſture the Inhabitants of the ſaid Colony, and to Commiſſionate, Impower and authoriſe ſuch Perſon or Perſons as they ſhall thinke fitt to lead and Conduct the ſaid Inhabitants, and to encounter, expulſe, repell and reſiſt by force of Armes, as well by Sea as by land, And alſoe to kill, Slay and deſtroy, by all fitting wayes, enterprizes and meanes whatſoever, all and every ſuch Perſon or Perſons as ſhall att any tyme hereafter Attempt or enterprize the deſtrucc̃on, invaſion, detriment or annoyance of the ſaid Inhabitants or Plantac̃on, And to vse and exerciſe the Law Martiall in ſuch Caſes onely as occaſſion ſhall require, And to take or ſurprize by all wayes and meanes whatſoever, all and every ſuch Perſon and Perſons, with their Shipps, Armour, Ammunic̃on, and other goods of ſuch as ſhall in ſuch hoſtile

manner invade or attempt the defeating of the ſaid Plantacõn or the hurt of the ſaid Company and Inhabitants; and vpon iuſt Cauſes to invade and deſtroy the Natives or other Enemyes of the ſaid Colony. Nevertheleſſe, Our Will and pleaſure is, And wee doe hereby Declare vnto all Chriſtian Kings, Princes and States, That if any Perſons which ſhall hereafter bee of the ſaid Company or Plantacõn, or any other, by appointment of the ſaid Governor and Company for the tyme being, ſhall att any tyme or tymes hereafter Robb or Spoile by Sea or by land, and doe any hurt, violence or vnlawfull hostillity to any of the Subiects of vs, our heires or Succeſſors, or any of the Subiects of any Prince or State beinge then in league with vs, our heires or Succeſſors, vpon Complaint of ſuch iniury done to any ſuch Prince or State, or their Subiects, wee, our heires and Succeſſors, will make open Proclamacõn within any parts of our Realme of England fitt for that purpoſe, That the Perſon or Perſons committinge any ſuch Robbery or Spoile, ſhall within the tyme lymitted by ſuch Proclamacõn, make full reſtitucõn or ſatiſfaccõn of all ſuch iniuries done or committed, Soe as the ſaid Prince or others ſoe complayneing may bee fully ſatiſfied and contented. And if the ſaid Perſon or Perſons whoe ſhall committ any ſuch Robbery or Spoile ſhall not make ſatiſfaccõn accordingly, within ſuch tyme ſoe to bee limitted, That then itt ſhall and may bee lawfull for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, to putt ſuch Perſon or Perſons out of our Allegiance and Protecc̃on. And

that it ſhall and may bee lawfull and free for all Princes or others to Proſecute with hoſtility ſuch Offenders and every of them, their and every of their Procurers, ayders, Abettors and Councellors in that behalfe. **Provided,** alſoe, and our expreſſe will and pleaſure is, **And wee doe** by theſe preſents for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, Ordeyne and appointe that theſe preſents ſhall not in any manner hinder any of our loveing Subiects whatſoever to vſe and exerciſe the Trade of Fiſhinge vpon the Coaſt of New England in America, but they and every or any of them ſhall have full and free power and liberty to contynue and vſe the ſaid Trade of Fiſhing vpon the ſaid Coast, in any of the Seas therevnto adioyning, or any Armes of the Seas or Salt Water Rivers where they have byn accuſtomed to Fiſh, And to build and sett vpon the wast land belonging to the ſaid Colony of Conecticutt, ſuch Wharfes, Stages and workehouſes as ſhall bee neceſſary for the Salting, dryeing and keepeing of their Fiſh to bee taken or gotten vpon that Coast,—any thinge in theſe preſents conteyned to the contrary notwithſtanding. **And knowe yee further,** That Wee, of our more abundant grace, certaine knowledge and meere moc̃on **have** given, Graunted and Confirmed, And by theis preſents, for vs, our heires and Succeſſors, **Doe** give, Graunt and Confirme vnto the ſaid Governor and Company and their Succeſſors, **All** that parte of our Dominions in Newe England in America bounded on the East by Norrogancett River, comonly called Norrogancett Bay, where the ſaid

River falleth into the Sea, and on the North by the lyne of the Maſſachuſetts Plantacon, and on the South by the Sea, and in longitude as the lyne of the Maſſachuſetts Colony, runinge from Eaſt to Weſt; that is to ſay, from the ſaid Narrogancett Bay on the Eaſt to the South Sea on the Weſt parte, with the Iſlands therevnto adioyneinge, Together with all firme lands, Soyles, Grounds, Havens, Ports, Rivers, Waters, Fiſhings, Mynes, Myneralls, Precious Stones, Quarries, and all and ſinguler other Comodities, Iuriſdiccons, Royalties, Priviledges, Francheses, Preheminences, and hereditaments whatſoever within the ſaid Tract, Bounds, lands and Iſlands aforeſaid, or to them or any of them belonging, **To have and to hold** the ſame vnto the ſaid Governor and Company, their Succeſſors and Aſſignes, for ever vpon Truſt and for the vſe and benefitt of themſelves and their Aſſociates, freemen of the ſaid Colony, their heires and Aſſignes, **To bee holden** of vs, our heires and Succeſſors, as of our Manor of East Greenewich, in Free and Comon Soccage, and not in Capite nor by Knights Service, **Yeilding and Payinge** therefore to vs, our heires and Succeſſors, onely the Fifth parte of all the Oare of Gold and Silver which from tyme to tyme and att all tymes hereafter ſhall bee there gotten, had or obteyned, in liew of all Services, Dutyes and Demaunds whatſoever, to bee to vs, our heires or Succeſſors, therefore or thereout rendered, made or paid. **And lastly,** Wee doe for vs, our heires, and Succeſſors, Graunt to the ſaid Governor and Company and their Succeſſors, by theſe

preſents, that theſe our Letters Patent ſhall bee firme, good and effectuall in the lawe to all intents, Conſtruccons and purpoſes whatſoever, accordinge to our true intent and meaneing herein before Declared, as ſhall bee Conſtrued, reputed and adiudged moſt favourable on the behalfe and for the beſt benefitt and behoofe of the ſaid Governor and Company and their Succeſſors, **Although expresse mention** of the true yearely value of certeinty of the premiſes, or of any of them, or of any other Guifts or Graunts by vs or by any of our Progenitors or Predeceſſors heretofore made to the ſaid Governor and Company of the Engliſh Colony of Conecticutt in New England in America aforeſaid in theis preſents is not made, or any Statute, Act, Ordinance, Proviſion, Proclamacon or Reſtriccon heretofore had, made, Enacted, Ordeyned or Provided, or any other matter, Cause or thinge whatſoever to the contrary thereof in any wiſe notwithſtanding. **In witnes** whereof, we have cauſed theſe our Letters to bee made Patent: **witnes** our Selfe, att Weſtminſter, the three and Twentieth day of Aprill, in the Fowerteenth yeare of our Reigne.

By writt of Privy Seale. **Howard.**